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Coming of democracy in south africa essay pdf

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Part One: Introduction February 2, 1990 - President FW de Klerk announces the release of Nelson Mandela and lifts the ban on the African National Congress (ANC), Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), South African Communist Party (SACP) and other liberation movements. December 21, 1991 - CODESA 1 begins at Johannesburg's World Trade Centre, with over 220 delegates from nineteen political parties attending. The "Declaration of Intent" is signed, pledging to work towards a united, democratic, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa, free from apartheid and discrimination. May 15, 1992 - CODESA 2 starts, but negotiations stall due to disagreements over power sharing, majority rule and violence. Behind-the-scenes talks between chief negotiators Roelf Meyer (NP) and Cyril Ramaphosa (ANC) help revive the process. April 1, 1993 - The Multiparty Negotiating Forum (MPNF) is established, paving the way for the end of apartheid. March 5, 1994 - The South African flag is designed. By the end of 1993, no design had gained public or council support. In February 1994, Cyril Ramaphosa and Roelf Meyer resolve the issue, with the new flag being hoisted on April 27, 1994, the day of the nation's first fully inclusive elections. April 27, 1994 - The ANC wins the election, with Nelson Mandela becoming the country's first democratically elected president. The end of apartheid brought freedom and unity to South Africa. The ANC's Thabo Mbeki and F.W. De Klerk became deputy presidents in the Government of National Unity, formed after the party gained a majority vote. The election was historic, marking a new era for the country, with all races participating together. Nineteen parties took part, and 22 million people voted peacefully. The ANC won with 62.65% of the vote, while the National Party received 20.39%. The Government of National Unity set up the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to address apartheid's human rights abuses. The TRC recorded abuses, granted amnesty in some cases, and offered reparations to victims. Thirty years later, Cyril Ramaphosa delivered an inauguration speech promising a "New Dawn" for South Africa. He played a crucial role in negotiating the end of apartheid and co-convener of the South African Constitution. Last week, a fresh start began with the swearing in of President Cyryl Ramaphosa for his new term. The seventh Parliament gathered for its first session on June 14th, where various parties like DA, Inkatha Freedom Party, and others joined forces. After intense negotiations on June 30th, the president revealed the lineup of top officials to help him lead the country forward.